LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE.

SPECIE PAYMENTS THE BEST ECONOMY. MORAL OBLIGATION OF THE GOVERNMENT TO RE-SUME-ITS ABILITY TO DO SO WITHOUT BUNNING INTO DEBT-THE GOOD POLICY OF ESTABLISHING A FIXED STANDARD OF VALUE-DISGRACE AND HARMFULNESS OF THE PRESENT SYSTEM OF

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: The term "specie payments" is generally understood to signify the payment by the Government of its paper money in specie, or coin. Wherever payment is involved, there is a debtor and a creditor. In this case the Government is the debtor, and the nolder of its paper money the creditor. When the question of payment is discussed there are generally only two considerations that suggest themselves to the minds of just men, namely, the justice of the zreditor's claim and the ability of the debtor to meet it. In this case, however, the question of 'policy" has been introduced with such apparent moral obligation, the policy, and the ability of the Government to return to specie payments.

The moral obligation of the Government to return to specie payments hinges on the meaning of the word "dollar," as the promise to pay is plainly inscribed on every division and subdivision of the entire circulation. If there is any doubt as to the whether the words "American dollar" mean a gold of c dollar, it would be well to find out when the meaning of the word was changed; as we all agree that the word meant a definite quantity of gold before the war. The policy of returning ato specie paymentsh as few disputants among thinking men. The Intersective of a fixed standard of value as the basis of a medium of exchange. The experience of all epochs establishes the fact that when the value standard of the monetary system has been vacillating, speculation has been encouraged to a disastrous extent, and productive labor has always suffered in the end. The great disadvantage under which many merchants and manufacturers labor in paying for their foreign material in gold and eventually selling it for currency; the single item of brokerage and commission, paid yearly in this country for the purchase of gold for the payment of duties; the discouragement of the investment of foreign capital in worthy and legitimate enterprise, and the general want of confidence incident to incompetent financial management, are all powerful arguments against a continuance of the present system. The money in circulation is not only a medium of exchange, but the basis of measurement of all values; and there would be just as much logic in advocating the use of a system of measurement that is subject to continual variation as to advocate most cursory view of the situation reveals the absolute necessity of a fixed standard of value as the that is subject to continual variation as to advocate the use of money that is constantly changing in

The ability of the Government to resume is by far the most important consideration, as the lack of ability would render the discussion of the foregoing questions premature. When a man wishes to gauge his ability to pay, the first thing to do is to ascertain the amount of his debts. In this case the Government owes about \$400,000,000. I bear some one say. "Stop, it is twice that amount; you forget the Na-tional bank circulation." I claim, however, that its debt does not amount to more than \$400,000,000, which represents the Treasury notes payable on de mand and the fractional currency, inasmuch as the National bank circulation is not a debt of the Government but of the banks that have issued it. The Government is merely the custodian of bonds placed in its hands as security for the ultimate redemption of the notes of hand made by the banks and issued to their holders as money. The National bank note derives its value from the legal-tender Treasury note, and it will always follow it.

When Treasury notes are worth their face in gold -which will never be until the Government offers to pay gold for them-the National bank note will on the same principle that they fluctuate with the Treasury note or greenback from day to day. Now since the Government owes about \$400,000,000 of Treasury notes, payable on demand, the question of the ability of the Government to return to specie payments resolves itself to the ability of the Government to borrow \$400,000,000 on interest-bearing bonds, which is simply a Granting that the money could be raised at 6 per cent—which is an outside figure—the exact cost of a matters was in the year 1828, when the site of the buildrived by the Government from its circulation of \$400,000,000. This circulation is a form of debt which bears no interest. Funding this debt with coin borrowed on interest-bearing bonds would not place the Government one farthing more in debt than it is at present, but would simply cost the in

If after the paper money was redeemed Congress saw fit to issue a National paper circulation on a gold basis, similar to that of the Bank of England. or any properly managed banking institution, the profits derived from such a circulation would more than counterbalance the entire cost of a return to specie payments; or, in other words, the interest on non-interest-bearing debt" of the Government. It is an open question, however, whether the Goverument should issue a circulation other than coin. It involves the gift of large discretionary powers to its officers, and holds out great temptations; and I therefore argue that it would be far better for the Government to pay the interest on its entire debt, and leave the risks and profits of banking business good monetary system. A great deal has been said about the danger of immediate resumption, in shrinkage of values and injury to the debtor class. The argument of shrinkage of values has no foundation; for all merchandise and property has its gold value to-day, and will always have it, for it is not gold that changes in value, but paper money that would be brought up to the gold standard by the action of resumption. It is true that many who owe money and do not possess as much as their debts amount to will lose a certain percentage when the Government resumes, and it is perfectly equitable that they should. They lose on the same principle as the man that parts with a rising stock before he realizes the advance. If gold was to go up, or more properly speaking, if paper money was to depreciate, the creditor class would have no right to complain, although in that case they would lose. On the other hand, if gold was to go down to five per cent by the action of the market, the debtor class would lose, and still bave no right to complain. The fact is that all business that is not transacted in gold is unavoidably a risk and speculation, as the very money with which we deal and upon which we base all calculations is constantly changing in value. Why should the people, who have put up with the fluctuations of this paper money for the last ten years, all the way from 200 to its present rate, complain when the Government proposes to fix the value once for all where it belongs, at 100 or par?

The change will not come in a day. The debtor class will have plenty of warning in the discussions in Congress which are necessary to the consummain congress which are necessary to the consumma-tion of resumption. And when the necessary legis-lation is obtained greenbacks will gradually rise to their face in gold, or, in other words, "gold will fall to par." Those who look for this result without actual redemption on the part of the Government will look in van. Were the wealth of the country to be multiplied three-fold, it would not remove the glaring inconsistencies of this paper money system, this forced legal tender, this refusal to redeem. The sooner the American people study un this guestion. this forced legal tender, this refusal to redects. The sooner the American people study up this question and acquaint themselves with the first laws of finance, the sooner they will bring to an end an appoch in their financial history which is not only marked with present detriment, but which will be a lasting disgrace.

R. S. Perrin. lasting disgrace. Acto-York, Nov. 11, 1874.

SOUTHERN GRATITUDE TO THE TRIBUNE. to the Editor of The Tribun SIR: Nature has given us a splendid State, one unsurpassed by any other, as we will demonstrate as

Wo ex-slaveholders are grateful to the publishers of THE TERRUNE for the noble efforts that paper is making to give good government to the down-trodden States of the South.

Winnshers, S. C. Nav. 10, 1874 Winnsboro, S. C., Nov. 10, 1874.

EDUCATION IN ARCHITECTURE.

INCREASING DESIRE FOR ARTISTIC BUILDINGS-ARCHITECTS' DESIGNS MARRED BY IGNORANT CONTRACTORS-GOOD CRITICISM RARE. To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sin: Within the past 10 years the demand for architectural design in the United States has steadily increased, as a natural consequence of a higher standard of education and the increased facilities for travel and observation. The newspapers are perhaps the best teachers we have. With all the growing interest in art, however, we seldow read anything that touches on the important art of architecture. The standard of taste is low. Arbitrary opinions are expressed without hesitation by almost every person concerning some new effort to beautify our monotonous streets. People like or dis-like this or that building without admitting for an instant that its merits or faults are intrinsic, good sense and plausible argument as to render it necessary to number it among the leading consider-ations in the discussion of the subject. It is my purpose, therefore, in this letter, to discuss the inflexible causes whose mastery qualifies any person to practice architecture, for like every other science or art, each step indicates another, until we must admit that no line can be drawn; and that to reach perfection in anything we must know- everything. But, nevertheless, I may safely lay down a few nevertheless, I may safely lay down a few flexible laws which may induce a more intelligent criticism of architectural effects. When the millennum arrives we shall, perhaps, be rid of charlatus calling themselves architects who never put penell to paper, and who wear feathers that are gaited for them by some talented but obscure employed. We shall then be so strong in public opinion that no architect will be able to underself his more respectable brethren, and make up the deficiency in his remaneration by collision with contractors. A word of advice also to the clients. They in many instances suppose that competent men can be angled for with a bait of a possible \$1000 or so, for which they are to work for weeks and even months. With this are to work for weeks and even months. With this

has already been started in "the Aberlean Institute of Architects."

In regard to the criticism of any architect's works no one can be considered qualified who has not taken pains to acquire a certain knowledge of form, color, and coastraction in the principal materials employed. They should then ascertain the purpose for which the building was creeted, the sum expended, and take into consideration the pecialarities of the surroundings.

The first question that presents itself in criticisms any building is. Does it express itself in criticisms any building is. Does it express itself in criticisms could that expression be enforced?

Second: Does the building answer as well as express its purpose? If so, is one the natural outgrowth of the other qualification?

Third: Is there an economical expenditure, comprising technical excellence of execution.

ing technical excellence of execution.

Fourth: 1s the mere form and color a sensual

Fourth: Is the mere form and color a sensual pleasure!

Fifth: Does the whole impress one with completeness and unity of expression! I may fairly say that a building in whose favor all these questions can be answered is truly a work of art, whether it be a stable or a cathedral, or whether it be designed in some known style or whether the exigencies have been ingeniously and artistically met in violation of all canons.

No style of architecture was ever invented. In all cases it has grown naturally from the habits and customs of a people, and there is no more reason to-day for our copying old examples, than there was for the builders of the middle ares to copy the Parthenon instead of giving us the magnificent expression of their superstitutes devotion in the cathedrals we study and admire. But to copy them is to dress a copies. The mellowness of age and association is not in our work; we must express the nineteenth century and its possibilities. We have appliances and materials that are imprecedented, and if we would leave any marks of our civilization in art we must lead the advance instead of reincicality following it.

New Tork, Nov. 16, 1874. New York, Nov. 16, 1874.

A PREMIUM UPON DOING BUSINESS SLOWLY-MORAL CHARACTER NOT CONSIDERED IN THE SELECTION OF CLEEKS-UNWISE REMOVAL OF THE STORES.

Sin: I am pleased to see the subject of question of the amount of interest that it abuses in the Custom-house agitated in the newspapers, would be necessary to offer for the money, and sincerely hope that good to the merchants will come return to specie payments would be \$24,000,000 per ing was where the United States Treasury building now was the cashier. I would state, as an example to some of his successors, that although, as I think, a weathy so plain that I think some of the Collectors that have served since his day would not like to enter it if they saw any one in the vicinity that knew them, for fear that they might be considered poor Congress then was composed of intelligent and unselfish men, who represented the whole country, and not ton then Webster, Frelinghuyson, Clay, Randolph, Crit tenden, and other eminent men. May the present gene-

ration be blessed with men like them. I have digressed; my object is more particularly with the present. It is quite common for merchants to receive notice that there is a certain aum due the Government on a bond of perhaps five or ten years' standing. The merchant has to pay it. If he does not, he cannot do business in the Castom-house. The next thing is to find by his books to whom this excess is to be charged, and he learns that his correspondent is fead or insolvent. I do not com plain of the present incumbents of the Custom-house, as cles of some one that had charge before them. I would ask whether the practice has been done away with that existed not lone since of furnishing the merchants with a notice when an entry has been paid, with the result in every case; whether there is an additional dury due the Government, something due the merchant, or the exist amount paid; I have seen scores of such cases. When we take this circumstance in connection with the fact that the liquidation of entries admits the slowest process in the Custom-house, and information is given by those in charge of the Custom-house that a refund is due and for so much percentage the fact will divulged—does not this look like giving a premium for delay f. Is there a remedy for this? There is, in any opiolon, a third or fourth party. This information can never be obtained but by collision, and the means I would apply is this: Appoint no one but a man that fears an oath—in fact the interest of the Government is only safe in the hands of such men. The high officers have no means to detect this, and it is certain they would do all in their power to detect the same. Make every man when appointed swear that he will take no advantage of what may be on record on the books that he takes charge of, or to promote his own interest financially, directly or indirectly; or give any information to any person whatever, that may be detrimental to the Government or to any men that are doing business in the Custom-house. Way have the Custom-house stores that ran from church to Greenwien-sis, been with the appraisers stores removed to Laight and West-sis, thereby causing much loss of time to the merchant, which is part of his capital? I have been told—but do not vouch for the trath of it—that the buildings to which I have altaded have been leased to the Government at a very large atvance on the amount paid before. Concerning the inconvenience of having the appraisers so remote I have recently heard of quite a ludierous circumstance. A mercantile house found it necessary to take a smail quant cles of some one that had charge before them. I would I have voted the Republican ticket for the last time. I think as the subject of a Presidential election is soon to come before the people, that it is the duty of every voter, regardless of party, to do all in his power to put into office men of pure principles. I do verily believe that the Almighty is chastizing us as a nation for corruption in high and low places. I hear one say, "Not at all; it is because Jay Cooke & Co. and the Pacific Railroad went by the board." Not at all. This is not the age of miracles, but an overruing Providence afflicts nations through nursan instrumentality.

Non-York, Oct. 10, 15:4.

OLD SUBSCRIBER.

ARE MORTGAGES PROPERTY!

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sin: Much has been said and written of late on the subject of taxation. On one point, relative to the subject, my mind is a little cloudy, and I therefore come to "headquarters" to have it cleared up. I have never been able to learn, or understand, on what hypothesis fashion: "A" purchases a farm for \$10,000, and having no ready each of his own, he borrows of "B" the amount on as we shall be blessed with an honest Government. I to pay for it, and gives "B" a mortgage on the property

as security for the loan. Now, it is & well known rule in logic, that no one thing can occupy more than one place at the same time. The money loaned by "B" is in the possession of "A;" or in other words is invested in "A's" farm, and there only it should be taxed. Furthermore, as property cannot be legally taxed more than once in any

GROUNDS OF OPPOSITION TO RECIPROCITY. FREE-TRADE IDEAS FAVORED-A RUINOUS COMPETI-TION WITH ENGLISH MANUFACTURES THREAT-ENED-CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES BOTH WISELY OPPOSED TO THE TREATY-CANADA'S IN-

DEPENDENCE. To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: Perhaps as the proposed Reciprocity Treaty is a matter in which the United States and Canada are mutually interested you will allow me the privilege of a few words in your columns concerning it. I am informed that Canada, by the proposed treaty, grees to admit all goods mentioned therein free from the United States, and free from England also. This would close all manufactories of such goods in Canada. Moreover, they could not be kept out of the United States, except at an immense cost of revenue apparatus

I am a Protectionist, as is every man who understands the subject, both in Canada and in the United States. With regard to British manufactures, our two countries duties on all that we can raise ourselves. By Protection ssession. Agriculture cannot make a modern country rich. I read, as I suppose you have read, Mr. Kelley's ing that this treaty is not solely in the interest of Canada, but drawn up by those who expect reward Mr. Brown expects knighthood, and his newspaper has liesa descent; and there is in your country a large and powerful class of that nationality was are endeavoring to instigate a war, for in it she would lose all; and there would be nothing for her small population but to determine to sell their lives dearly, which I assure you they would. Have not the United States also some crason to avoid k! What would be the almost certain results did the two most powerful, and—when roused—the most ferechus mations of the world combine for mutual self-destruction! No contest is so lierce as that outween relatives; each would put forth their whole strength, and it would be a struggle both terrible and lasting. Who can say that at its close the leading genius of the world would be, as now, Anglo-Saxon! It is these uscless contests that hereak the power of races. Persia fell with the Grecian expedition; Spain sank with the Armada; Sedan was the closing scene of France. It history or the temper of races teach us augat, such a war would leave England without commerce, perhaps without colonies; would reduce to ashes every scaport city on the Atlantic and Pacific frontier of the United States; while as for Canada, she would hardly know where her small towns had stood, or where her farms had been. It would bring revolution in England; it would cause certain disruption in the States. The picture is fearful, but it is true; and toward such events we are rapidly but surely drifting, while, as I said, you have many with you who spare no pains to urge us on.

There is only one way to avoid its possibility, and it is a course which will be found easy of accomplishment. Erect Canada into an independent nation, under the guarantee for a term of years of the States, Britain, and some other great European power. This expedient would be found to answer the purpose of securing peace, and it would seaver also the purpose of trade. It is useless and ridictions, while canada maintains her European connection, to attempt to frame commercial treates with the States that shall be mutually satisfactory

MODERATION OF DEMOCRATS' JOY OVER THEIR VICTORY-BANKS SUGGESTED FOR SPEAKER-ABILITY AND GOOD CHARACTER OF NEW CON-GRESSMEN.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sin: Even the Third-term men admit that the recent political tidal wave was a perfectly astound-ing and unaccountable event. There has been no such revolution in the history of American politics before. In view of this great fact, a little outburst of revengeful feeling might have been expected. There has been nothing of the kind. THE THIBUNE itself has hardly been more just, moderate, and magnanimous in this hour of popular triumph over party than Demohas come no word of bitterness, of hatred, or even o narrowness. Since the election I have talked with Dan ocrats from Iowa, Minnesota, Miscouri, Illinois, Arkar sas, Texas, Georgia, Virginia, Maryland, and the New Eagland States, and have not heard even word of unseemly exultation from any of the Every one agrees that the political revolution of the year is in no just sense a party victory. I do no know that I can better show the feeling as manifests here by influential men of the Democratic party in the

ably than any other sugle thing they could do the real feelings of moderation and conservation of the Democrate party.

I heg your readers to do me the justice to believe that I do not mention these facts in advocacy of Gen. Banks's election to the office named. I have no candidate for any office. When the American people cast aside their best friend for one who has all the vices of Marborouga and none of his genus, I abundoned all partisonations and none of his genus, I abundoned all partisonable for the second of the property of the next House I think with be a noted one. Among its members are several men of recognized high ability and pure character. Mr. Kerr of Indiana is entitled to unmixed respect. It is purned the indiation plant of his State platform, and like Payne in Onio, showed pretty conclusively that they fibed that section who assert that the West is I at inflation. Mr. Potter of Silchigan is another able and fiberal Democrat, before whose sturty blows the inflationist barrows went down in well-deserved defeat. Mr. Gibson of Louislama, an uncommonly strong man, will give the weight of his inflance to progressive politics and specie payments. Mr. Hopkins of Pennsylvania, who will succeed Gen. Neeley, may be counted well up in talents and liberal notions. The ablest of the new men from Virginia are ex-Gov. Walker and John Randolph Tucker. The latter is a brother of the once famous Eeverly Tucker, but is different from him in almost every respect. I presums no man in Virginia outranks him intellectually, and ans personal character is as pure as that of Gen. Lee.

Taese eminent men with the best men among those referenced to the House, can give the way for an honest system of finance. Taey can found a Democratic-Republican constituencies, beard many of whom stand R-publican constituencies, shall take advantage of the great opportunity given them by the elections of this year, they can make this revolution a permanent cood. If they fall into the sloagh of Bouroonism, the R-publicans having maked and d

year, they can make this revolution a permanent good if they fail into the slough of Boursonism, the Republicans, having washed and downed their naciena characters—1 Herculcan 195—will regain complete control of the Government. Victory lies in magnantimity.

Washington City, Nay 11 187. L. D. ISOERSOLL.

Washington City, Nov. 11, 1874.

THE WESTERN SUFFERERS. To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sin: Will you not announce that you will receive subscriptions for the Western sufferers by grasshoppers? It is terrible to think that here in our own country, as a result of this scoarge, there are whole families suffering the pangs of honger, and even of starvation, from no famil of their own. Will you not call public attention to the subject in a short editorial 1 m. R. F. V-ry respectfuity, Wellsboro, Penn., Nov. 20, 1871.

[THE TRIBUNE has already received and acknowledged a number of contributions for this object, and will gladly receive any others that may be promptly forwarded. Whatever is done in the matter, however, should be done at once.-Ed.)

SMALL AND MEAN.

From The Accessor (Ken.) Commpton.

About the smallest, meanest, most disgraceful thing that we have ever known the Council of this
city to be guilty of was the action of that body on Mononay evening in striking from the appropriation ordinance
the item of \$13.50 to pay for the powder used in firing a
salute in honor of the President of the United States on
the occasion of his recent visit to this city. Mayor
Murpap ordered the exponditure at the suggestion of
hundreds of our citizens, Democrats as well as Repulicans.
It was an appropriate and proper respect paid to the
Chief Magistrate of the Republic, Indorsed by fully ninetenths of our citizens. On Monday night, on motion of
Councilinan J. C. Fox, the Council refused to pay this
item, all of the Councilmen except Messrs. Barker, Park,
and White, voting with Fox to strike it out. Mayor
Murpay yesterday paid the bill out of his own pocket.
This action is a specimen of deliberate meanness utterly
beneath contempt. It is a disgrace to the city and disbonorable to those who voted for it. Democrats and Republicans alike repudiate and denounce it. It is simply
shameful.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

light of modern physiological science, but while availing himself of the important and manifold discoveries of recent inquirers, he has largely added to the knowledge of the subject by his own independent and original labors. He has not been dazzled by the prestige of eminent names, he has taken nothing upon trust, he has verified every reference by consulting the original works, and has never hesitated to declare his own opinions, even when they have been opposed to high authority. A large part of the present volume is devoted to the physiology of the special senses, the subject of general sensibility having been treated in the study of the nervous system. In describing the different organs of sensation, Dr. Filit often combines his technical expositions with remarks of popular interest, which claim the attention of the general reader as well as the professional student. Thus in explaining the mechanism of vision, he affirms that, contrary to the received opinion, the eye is by no means a perfect optical instrument, considered from a purely physical point of view. In the first place, it is not entirely schronatic, although in ordinary vision the dispersion of colors is not appreciated. There is but a single point in the retina where vision is absolutely distinct. It is upon this point that images are made to fall when the eye is directed toward any object. But the refracting apparatus is not exactly centered, a condition essential to our most perfect optical instruments. If the eye were a perfect optical instrument, the line of vision would coincide with the axis of the cornea. But this is not the case. The visual line devi-ates to the masal side, forming an angle with the axis of stricted, but if it were larger, the mind would probably become confused with the variety of the impressions. Yet while we see distinctly but few objects at once, the area of indistinct vision is immense. This is not the case with artificial instruments. Much also is gained by the use of two eyes, so that Dr. Fant concludes, the organ of vision gains rather than loses in comparison with the most perfect instruments. The physics of sound is the subject of a very elaborate discussion, embracing the laws of musical combination, and the results of the delicate experiments of Helmheltz which have thrown so fresh a light on the principles of harmony. The volume closes with an account of the reproductive tule point of view. In completing his arduous task, Dr. Flint may be congratulated on the construction of a work which is in perfect accordance with the intellectnal tendencies of the age. No one-sided or partisan production in any branch of inquiry can now give satisfaction to the most intelligent and reflective thinkers. They demand a certain universality of view, without which the most ingenious disquisitions are imperiment. The exclusive results of speculative theory or of practical research are not regarded as exhaustive of any question in science. The observation of facts and the dation of principles must go hand in hand to-gether. Especially have the conclusions of physical inquiry become of cardinal importance to the student of philosophy. The most profound metaphysicians of the present day are distinguished for their knowledge of the natural sciences. Positive facts, to a large extent, have taken the place of vague fancies. If we do not go the full length with a certain medical pracioner who pronounced one of our most eminent living thinkers to be ignorant of the principles of psychology because he had never witnessed the dissection of a brain, it must at least be admitted that the most acute analysts of the mental functions are among the most devoted students of human physiology. The two streams of life commingle as they flow, and a knowledge of one often serves for the illustration of the other. Dr. Eint has serves for the illustration of the other. Dr. Flint has thus made a precious contribution to universal science, as well as discharged the debt due to his profession by aiding to place its principles upon a solid foundation. The fruits of his labors, though inspired by limited

CHRISTIANITY AND SCHENCE. A SERIES OF LICTURE DE-LIVERDO ON THE ELY FORDATION OF THE UNION THEOLOGICAL SHRINARY, BY ANDREW P. PERRODY, D. D. LL. D. 12mo pp. 257. Robert Carler & Brothers.

One of the most interesting circumstances connected with these lectures is the fact that they were delivered by a Unitarian professor in Harvard College before an Orthodox theological seminary in the City of New-York. The occasion, it is true, did not involve the discussion of peculiar doctrinal theories; there was no demand for the utterance of opinions which might not be regarded as held in common by the speaker and the audience; but the choice of the lecturer must be looked upon as an exercise of courtesy, or of charity, of which certainly until within a recent period, the specimens have not been conspicuous. The principles set forth in the present volume are almost identical with those maintained by Dr. Channing in his celebrated believe that illustrious divine was never invited to re-peat the discourse before the Andover Seminary, nor in he orthodox pulpits of the vicinity. The felicity with which Dr. Peabody has discharged his trust shows that, there was little peril in the novel experiment. Not a word did he utter to indicate the school of faith of which he was a disciple. There was nothing, we should judge. to give offense to the most scrupulous conscience. There ras no reference to disputed points of opinion. The evidences of the Christian faith, as held by the Church universal, were set forth with earnestness and power. No attempt was made to soften prejudices, or impai convictions. Few readers of the volume would suspect that there was any heaven-wide difference between the preacher and the congregation. In this modest reticence, Dr. Peabody has evinced both good feeling and good sense. The printed ectures thus become the property not of a sect or : school, but of Christian students in general. They will not startle by any novelties of thought, but in expres sion and illustration they bear the mental stamp of the author. Sufficient learning, moderation of tone, strength of argument, and clearness of judgment are combined in their composition. As an example of Dr. Peabody's method, we may refer to his introductory remarks on the relations of religiou and science. He disclaims any antagonism between the two branches of human experience and activity. The alarm of timid Christians at the progress of physical science, he represents as groundless. True science and Christianity, if it come from divine revelation, cannot contradict each other. They must coincide as far as they cover the same ground. The Creater must have put his signature on the whole creation no less than on his written Word. The biereglyphs of Nature must correspond to the alphabetic writing of revelation. But true science is not speculation, but knowledge; not half-truths, but whole truths; not possible hypotheses, but actual principles, which explain the phenomena of nature. The opinions of scientific men, however plausible, are not science. Many such opinions have been dominant at former periods, but are now obsolete. Dr. Peabody does not regard the theory of evolution, which he declares is at present so generally received among scientific men, as necessarily hostile to religious faith. Some earnest and devout Christian believers are among its most earnest and able adherents. Indeed, he affirms that there are certain aspects on which this theory is peculiarly at-tractive on religious grounds. If specific crea-tion implies creative wisdom, much mere is it implied in the endowment of atoms with the power of development into the various forms of organic and spiritual being. Even if we were compelled to trace our descent from an ancestry of apes or animalcules, we might look with complacency on our humble origin, from which we might anticipate a further development into angels and archangels as much superior to ourselves as we are to the animals frem which we sprang. But while we have no reason, as the friends of religion, to fear such speculations, we are not called apon to make them the least concession. They are mere hypotheses, without proof, argues the author, and have no ciaim to be regarded as science. As respects the peculiar theme of his lectures, Dr. Peabody, for the most part, adopts the usual method of discussion, arranging his materials under the division of external and internal evidence, although his line of argument appears to attach less importance to the proof from prophecy than from miracles.

ISSUES OF THE AGE. By Hanny C. PEDDER. 12mo. pp. 175.
A. E. Butte & Co.

The author of this volume has evidently kept company with many of the finer spirits of the age antil his mind has become imbued with the fragrance of their thought. He has pursued a wide rauge of reading, making frequent excursions into remote fields, and choosing his guides with eminent discretion, aithough among too great a variety of authorities for unity of conviction. His rambles have led him into garden and forest, by the seashore and on the mountain side, on the verdant lawn and in the grim wilderness, affording him the spoils of every clime in rich profusion, but without calling forth an offering of fruits and

The wealth of his appliances has been unfavorable to original action, and he brings us only the THE PHYSIOLOGY OF MAN. By ACRITY PLINT, jr., M. D. Vol. V. Svo., pp. 517. D. Appleton & Co. remains of past aromas instead of ripe grapes from his own vineyard. The execution of his work betrays a want of practice in the expression of his ideas. His style is ambitious, but not effective. His words are too The great physiological work of which the final volume is now presented to the public, is the fruit of more than eleven years of assiduous study, experi-ment, and research. Dr. Flint has aimed to exhibit the large and too abundant for the occasion, nor has be organs and uses of the human body, as viewed in the strength. It is muscle that tells in the long run, and no embroidery of costume can give the power of anathlete. The writer of the work has excellent tendencies, ele vated tastes, and sound aspirations; but these will not suffice for successful authorship; let him lay aside a large share of self-consciousness, cultivate independence of thought and simplicitly of expression, without an excess of deference to the authority of his favorites, and he may hide his time with cheerful trust in the promises of the dim future.

TRAVELS IN SOUTH AMERICA. By PAUL MARCOT. Vol. I. 4to. pp. 524. Scribner, Armstrong, & Co.

The journey across the Continent from Peru to Brazil, which forms the basis of this sumptuous volume, is described with the exuberant vivacity of the French character, tempered with the love of beauty and cultivated taste of the artistic writer. His versatile mind delights in the enjoyment of the most opposite scenes, from the festive orgies of Spanish hospitality to the wild and luxuriant vegetation of tropical nature. He is alive to every new impression, but finds himself more at home in the city than the wilderness. The study of man, including that of woman, has greater attraction for his taste than geographical researches. His pictures of social and monastic life are painted in lively colors, and present an endless fund of amusement There is not a dull or uninteresting page in the whole volume. Not that the author is always on the alert for comic incidents; his manner is as negligent and as freeand-easy as possible; but with his natural sense of humor, no ludicrous feature escapes his notice. There is a constant bubbling up of fun in a quiet way, and no reader can go to sleep under the touches of his graphic pen. The work is illustrated with a profusion of engravings from sketches taken on the spot, many of which are choice specimens of art. A more attractive volume for the library or drawing-room is not likely to make its appearance during the holidays, and whoever is looking for a work of costly luxury for a gift need go no further in his quee. A collective edition of Lord Macaulay's Essays oatributed to the "Eliaburgh Review" has been

ssued in a neat volume by Albert Mason. They, of

course, comprise the celebrated papers on "Milton," Croker's edition of "Bosweii's Johnson," "Lord Bacon," "Warren Hastings," "Addison," and others, which

form so piquant and instructive an element in modern Euglish literature. The old readers of Macaulay will

delight to revive the fascination with which they

have been wont to linger over his magic pages, which

suggest a fresh charm with every new perusal. Young

men of a later generation who have been enticed from a knowledge of his writings by the seductions of living

favorites will be surprised to learn the enjoyment they have in store from an acquaintance with the paragraphs

in which the keenest thoughts are arrayed in cloth of gold. The present issue, with its compact form and tasteful execution, deserves a cordial greeting from the public, who will find in it a grateful addition to their intellectual stores of permanent in terest. Mr. Stedman's essay on the "Victorian Poets" in the new number of Scribner, discussing the peculia genius of Robert Browning, is a profound and admirable piece of criticism. He regards Browning as the most original, but the mest unequal, of living poets, who by his contempt of beauty, or inability to fully express it, fails of that union of art and spiritual power which always characterizes a poet tentirely great. "The Silver Age" is a striking article describing the progress of silver manufacture in this country, with many choice illustrations from the designs executed in silver by the artists of the Gorham Company. It is shown by the writer that the cele-brated Providence silversmiths have never been rivaled in resource and invention in any country or age, and that they now conduct the most extensive and the best appointed silverware manufactory in the world.

Harper for this month has a timely paper on the "Coming Transit or Venus," with interesting his torical and scientific notices of the phenomenon referred to. In reply to the question why so much palus should be taken about so remote a matter, the writer remarks that scientific investigators never inquire as to the us of any special knowledge, but leave the practical appli cation of it to others. Still it does not take much time to show that astronomy, merely in a utilitarian point of view, has made a liberal payment to the world for all the labor that has been speat in its study. The art of navigating the ocean in safety is due to the researches of Kepler, Newton, and their successors. Before the dis-covery of their laws of motion, no observation of the heavenly bodies could have availed for the direction of the mariner.

EATING FOR STRENGTH. By M. L. Holsmook, M. D. 12mc pp. 157. Wood & Holbrook.

The rationale of food is here explained in a few brief and pointed sentences. The writer has popular instruction in view rather than the support of any theoretical systems. He is free from extremes in the to vegetable over animal food. He delivers in brief and plain words the reasons why we should eat and drink and the effect of on the animal economy. His remarks, for the most part, are uncommonly apt, coming to the point without the slightest circumlocation. The volume winds up with sundry receipts for toothsome cookery and whole-some drinks, and though small in compass is more to the purpose than many larger works.

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